

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02153 151103Z
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TAGS: PEPR, CSCE, SHUM, PL
SUBJ: POLISH PRESS APPRAISAL OF BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE: A
QUALIFIED SUCCESS DESPITE WESTERN OBSTRUCTIONISM

1. SUMMARY: POLISH PRESS COMMENTARY ON THE BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE TERMS IT AN OVERALL SUCCESS. ACCORDING TO EDITORIAL COMMENT, "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES LED THE CONFERENCE TO A SUCCESSFUL, IF NOT, TOTALLY SATISFYING, CONCLUSION, DESPITE ATTEMPTS BY OPPONENTS OF DETENTE TO UNDERMINE IT BY OVER-STRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.
END SUMMARY.

2. A FLURRY OF EDITORIALS IN THE POLISH PRESS GREETED THE END OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE LAST WEEK. SINCE THEN, ASIDE FROM REVIEWS OF REACTION ABROAD, THE SUBJECT HAS VANISHED FROM THE PAGES OF POLISH
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 02153 151103Z

NEWSPAPERS.

3. EDITORIALISTS, SUMMING UP THE CONFERENCE, PLAYED ON THEMES STRUCK BY THE HEAD OF THE POLISH CSCE DELEGATION, MARIAN DOBROSIELSKI, IN HIS CONCLUDING SPEECH AT BELGRADE. ACCORDING TO HIS STATEMENT AS PUBLISHED IN THE POLISH PRESS, HE CALLED THE BELGRADE MEETING "AN IMPORTANT AND POSITIVE STEP IN THE CONTINUATION OF THE MULTILATERAL

PROCESS

INITIATED BY THE CSCE".

RYSZARD DRECKI, IN TRYBUNA LUDU, DAILY ORGAN OF THE POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY (PZPR), NOTED THAT ALL THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE RESOLVED "TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF DETENTE" AND NO ONE CHALLENGED THE FUNDAMENTAL TENETS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. HOWEVER, DRECKI CONTINUED, "THE FACT CANNOT BE DISREGARDED THAT THE BELGRADE MEETING WAS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT IN RECENT YEARS." ADAM WYSOCKI, IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY, A MASS CIRCULATION WARSAW DAILY, WROTE: "BELGRADE 77 HAS BEEN A BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT TO ALL THOSE WHO WISHED FROM THE BEGINNING TO TRANSFORM IT INTO A KIND OF INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL, WITH A DIVISION INTO ACCUSERS AND ACCUSED, INTO A PLATFORM OF NEW COLD WAR CONTROVERSIES."

4. JANUSZ STEFANOWICZ, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF SLOWO POWSZECHNE, THE REGIME-SANCTIONED DAILY AIMED AT A CATHOLIC AUDIENCE, SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY WAS MORE NEGATIVE: "THAT THE PROGRESS ACTUALLY MADE IS LESS THAN WE HAD THE RIGHT TO EXPECT IS ANOTHER MATTER." STEFANOWICZ SINGLED OUT THE CULPRIT: "PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED EVEN BEFORE THE PREPARATORY MEETING, INTRODUCED A FACTOR OF POLEMICS AND PROPAGANDA WHICH IMMEDIATELY SET THE MEETING ON A FALSE TRACK." BELGRADE, STEFANOWICZ CONTINUED, PROVED THAT "PAN-EUROPEAN RELATIONS, IN THE INITIAL STAGE...ISOLATED IN A SOMEWHAT ARTIFICIAL MANNER FROM EVENTS ON REMAINING CONTINENTS," CAN NO LONGER BE INSULATED FROM "SUCH DESTABILIZING FACTORS" AS THE ARMAMENTS DRIVE, INCLUDING THE PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 WARSAW 02153 151103Z

(COMMENT: NONE OF THE CSCE EDITORIALS HOWEVER, HIT THE NEUTRON BOMB ISSUE AS HARD AS DOBRISIELSKI HIMSELF IN HIS CLOSING BELGRADE STATEMENT: "THE NEUTRON BOMB IS THE ESSENCE OF THE WORLD OUTLOOK OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SAVE THE WORLD, NOT FOR PEOPLE AND ALL THEIR SPIRITUAL VALUES, BUT FOR THINGS, MATERIALS VALUES. IT IS A COMPLETE NAGATION OF ALL HUMANISTIC VALUES, ALL HUMAN RIGHTS." OUTSIDE THE CSCE CONTEXT, THE ANTI-NEUTRON BOMB CAMPAIGN IN THE POLISH MEDIA HAS BEEN INTENSE IN RECENT DAYS. END COMMENT).

5. WYSOCKI WROTE THAT THIS WELL-ORCHESTRATED PROPAGANDA GAMBIT OF THE WEST, WHICH PREACHED HUMAN RIGHTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME AMASSING A HUGE STOCKPILE OF WEAPONS, WAS "DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN IDEOLOGICAL ANSWER TO THE IRREFUTABLE FACT THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES HAD BEEN THE INITIATORS AND CONSISTENT SUPPORTERS OF DETENTE AND UNCERSTANDING." IN FACT, DRECKI CONCLUDED, "IT IS UNQUESTIONABLY DUE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES THAT THE BELGRADE MEETING... FULFILLED THE TASKS SET IN THE CSCE FINAL ACT, MAKING A THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND CONFIRMING BY THE ADOPTION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT IS THE ONLY WAY OF DEVELOPING RELATIONS AMONG COUNTRIES ON OUR CONTINENT."

6. COMMENT: THERE ARE FEW SURPRISES IN THESE EDITORIALS. THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE, THE POLISH MEDIA STRESSED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT AS A TOTAL PACKAGE, EMPHASIZED THE CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES LED BY THE SOVIET UNION, AND CHIDED CERTAIN WESTERN COUNTRIES FOR THEIR ALLEGEDLY OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS. THESE EDITORIAL SUMMATIONS OF BELGRADE, HOWEVER, MARK THE FIRST TIME IN THE POLISH PRESS THAT THE US EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS SO BALDLY BLAMED FOR IMPEDING THE SMOOTH FLOW OF THE CONFERENCE. END COMMENT. BROWN

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